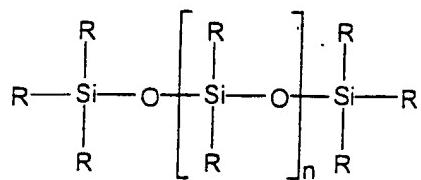


Amendments To The Claims

This listing of claims will replace all previous versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

1. (amended) Surface coated hard material comprising single hard grids having with a hardness (HV_{O.2}) ≥10 GPa, the surface of which has a polysiloxane coating.
2. (amended) The sSurface coated hard material as defined in Claim 1, wherein characterized in that the hardness (HV_{O.2}) > 15 Gpa.
3. (amended) The sSurface coated hard material as defined in Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein characterized in that aluminum oxide is the basis of the hard material comprises aluminum oxide.
4. (amended) The sSurface coated hard material as defined in Claim 1, wherein characterized in that the basis of the hard material is a material selected from the group consisting of electro-corundum, monocrystalline corundum, sintered corundum, sintered alumina, and/or calcined alumina, or mixtures of these.
5. (amended) The sSurface coated hard material as defined in claim 1, wherein characterized in that the surface of the hard material is coated with thea polysiloxane of the formula:



where R is hydrogen, an alkyl and/or phenyl group a known radical for polysiloxanes and non-reactive as incorporated in the polysiloxane, and n is an integer between 1 and 100.

- 6-7. canceled
8. (amended) The sSurface coated hard material as defined in one of the Claims 5 to 7,
wherein characterized in that the R radical is preferably a methyl group.
9. (amended) The sSurface coated hard material as defined in claim 1, wherein characterized
in that the quantity of the polysiloxane on its surface amounts to 0.001 to 10%-wt
relative to the hard material that is used.
10. (amended) The sSurface coated hard material as defined in Claim 9, wherein characterized
in that the quantity of the polysiloxane amounts to 0.01 to 5%-Wt relative to the hard
material that is used.
11. (amended) The sSurface coated hard material as defined in Claim 9, wherein characterized
in that it is preferred that the quantity of the polysiloxane amount to 0.1 to 1.5%-wt
relative to the hard material that is used.
12. (amended) Method for producing a hard material as defined in claim1, comprising the
steps of:
characterized in that coating a hard material grain is mixed with a polysiloxane, a
polysiloxane solution or emulsion, or a diluted polysiloxane solution or emulsion;
heat treating the hard material grain in a temperature range between 100°C and
600°C prior to the coating process; and
drying the coated hard material grain in a temperature range between 100°C and
400°C.

13-14. canceled

15. (amended) The mMethod as defined in Claim 1214, wherein characterized in that the drying temperature is between 100100°C and 200°C.
16. (amended) The mMethod as defined in Claim 12, wherein characterized in that an aqueous polysiloxane emulsion is used.
17. (amended) The mMethod as defined in Claim 12, wherein characterized in that the viscosity of the polysiloxane, the polysiloxane emulsion, or the diluted polysiloxane emulsion that is used is below 1500 mPa*s.
18. (amended) The mMethod as defined in Claim 17, wherein characterized in that the viscosity of the polysiloxane, the polysiloxane emulsion, or the diluted polysiloxane emulsion that is used is below 1000 mPa*s.
- 19-20. canceled